Closing down of SSIs in Karnataka

1756. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the number of Small Scale Industries closed down in Karnataka due to various reasons like power hike, costly labour, etc;

(b) if so, whether Government have provided any incentives to these units to revive and strengthen their performance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) The information on closed units is not maintained centrally. However, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSI units financed by scheduled commercial Banks. As per the latest information available with the RBI, there were 4400 sick units in the State of Karnataka by the end of March, 2001.

(b) and (c) The Government is fully seized of the incidence of industrial sickness among SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units, which *inter-alia* include institutional mechanism in the form of State-level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in Banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the RBI for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units.

Further, for rehabilitation of sick/closed units, Government of Karnataka has also been providing assistance in the form of Seed Margin Money at 25% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.50 lakhs, waiver of fixed charges during closure period, payment of arrears of energy bill in instalments and waiver of interest for closure period.

Grants to SSIs

1757. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided recently to grant Rs. 75,000/- to each Small Scale Units (SSI) that obtains ISO 9000/9001 certification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of small scale units that have been granted the amount; and

(d) the amount earmarked and spent so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) The Scheme of reimbursement of ISO-9000 Certification Expenses to Small Scale Industries has been in operation since March, 1994. The scheme envisages reimbursement of 75% of expenses of acquiring ISO-9000 Certification or its equivalent limited to Rs.75,000/- in each case. The scheme has been extended up to 31st March, 2007.

(c) and (d) Since the launching of the scheme, 2398 small scale industries have been granted reimbursement for an amount of Rs.14.60 Crores up to 30th June, 2002. During 10th Plan, an allocation of Rs.40.50 Crores has been proposed.

Special mission satellite

1758. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special mission satellite christened 'Edusat' is being built to speed up the Nation's distance education revolution; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the time frame fixed for its launch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) A dedicated satellite called 'EDUSAT' for the nation's distance education programme is under planning. It will consist of about (i) 6 Ext-C band transponders and (ii) 5 Ku-band high power transponders-4 with regional coverage and 1 with India coverage. Realisation of EDUSAT will take about 18 months from the date of approval.

Utilization of MPLADS fund in Rajasthan

1759. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Members of Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan, who